IMPROVING SPEECH, LANGUAGE AND HEARING

Communication sciences is the scientific study of human speech, language and hearing. Communication disorders include problems with speech, fluency, voice, cognition, language, hearing and swallowing. Master’s-degree-level study of communication sciences and disorders prepares students to work as speech-language pathologists. Licensed speech-language pathologists help clients improve their ability to speak, read, write, hear and swallow.

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS AT UCF

UCF offers a Master of Arts in Communication Sciences and Disorders, a Graduate Certificate in Medical Speech-Language Pathology and a Doctor of Philosophy in Education–Communication Sciences and Disorders Track.

Master of Arts

UCF offers three plans of study leading to the Master of Arts:

- Full-time traditional option for students with or without a background in communication sciences and disorders
- Consortium option (summers mainly) for students with a bachelor’s degree and experience in the discipline
- Accelerated option for qualified UCF undergraduates

For complete program requirements, see the UCF Graduate Catalog at graduatecatalog.ucf.edu.
COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS FACULTY:
• 30 core faculty members
• 1 Honoree, 10 Fellows, and 4 international achievement, multicultural affairs and higher-education contribution awardees of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
• Expertise in all areas of communication sciences and disorders
• Among the nation’s most well-published and respected scholars

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS CLINIC:
• Largest clinical education program in speech-language pathology (SLP) in the nation
• Program includes all nine SLP competencies
• Specialty clinics in aphasia, augmentative and alternative communication, listening and spoken language, voice and swallowing, fluency, and audiology

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WHERE CAN I GET A JOB?
Graduates of UCF’s accredited M.A. program are eligible to obtain a state license to work as a speech-language pathologist. They also may seek certifications from the American Speech-Language Hearing Association and the Florida Department of Education that increase opportunities for employment and advancement.

About 56 percent of speech-language pathologists work in schools or other educational settings, where they develop and implement programs, provide counseling, and support classroom activities. Other speech-language pathologists are employed at hospitals, speech-language pathology offices, physician offices, nursing care facilities, home health care services, outpatient care centers and child day care centers. Some are self-employed or work as consultants to industry.

Employment as an audiologist requires a doctoral degree in audiology and a state license. UCF’s doctoral track in communication sciences and disorders prepares graduates for leadership positions in language and literacy.

DID YOU KNOW?
Employment of speech-language pathologists is projected to grow 19 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations. As the large baby-boom population grows older, there will be more instances of health conditions that cause speech or language impairments, such as strokes and hearing loss. — U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics